

What is claimed is:

1. A device for driving a luminescent display panel comprising; a luminescent element, a drive TFT for light-up driving the luminescent element, a control TFT for controlling the gate voltage of the drive TFT, and a power source circuit that, for causing the luminescent element to perform its luminescing operation, can supply a forward-directional electric current to the luminescent element and apply a reverse bias voltage that is reverse to the forward-directional current voltage to the luminescent element, wherein

the power source circuit is the one that outputs a power source voltage level the potential of that is positive or negative with respect to the reference potential, and the power source circuit is arranged so that, in a state of supplying a forward-directional electric current to the luminescent element, it may supply a power source voltage level of positive potential to one terminal functioning as the anode of the luminescent element and supply a power source voltage level of negative potential to the other terminal functioning as the cathode of the luminescent element; and

so that, in a state of applying a reverse bias voltage to the luminescent element, it may supply a power source voltage level of negative potential to the one terminal functioning as the anode of the luminescent element and supply a power source voltage level of positive potential to the other terminal functioning as the cathode of the luminescent element; and at least the drive TFT and control TFT are each constructed using

the same channel TFT.

2. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 1, further comprising first switch means for alternatively selecting one of the power source voltage level of positive potential and the power source voltage level of negative potential and second switch means that, in a state where the power source voltage level of positive potential is being selected by the first switch means, selects the power source voltage level of negative potential and, in a state where the power source voltage level of negative potential is being selected by the first switch means, selects the power source voltage level of positive potential, whereby the luminescent element is arrayed between the first switch means and the second switch means.

3. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 1, wherein the drive TFT and control TFT are each a P-channel type TFT.

4. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising a capacitor for accumulating an electric charge that maintains a state where the luminescent element is light-up driven by the drive TFT, whereby the device is constructed so that the terminal voltage of the capacitor due to the presence of the electric charge accumulated in the capacitor may be supplied to the gate of the drive TFT.

5. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 4, further comprising a TFT for making erasable

the electric charge of the capacitor.

6. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to one of claims 1 to 3, which uses as the light-up drive controlling means for the luminescent element any one of a conductance control method, a current mirror method, a current programming method, a voltage programming method, and a threshold voltage correcting method.

7. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to one of claims 1 to 3, further comprising an element that is connected in parallel to the drive TFT and that, when it is in a state of its being applied with a reverse bias voltage, becomes electrically conductive.

8. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 4, further comprising an element that is connected in parallel to the drive TFT and that, when it is in a state of its being applied with a reverse bias voltage, becomes electrically conductive.

9. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 5, further comprising an element that is connected in parallel to the drive TFT and that, when it is in a state of its being applied with a reverse bias voltage, becomes electrically conductive.

10. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 6, further comprising an element that is connected in parallel to the drive TFT and that, when it is in a state of its being applied with a reverse bias voltage, becomes electrically conductive.

11. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 7, wherein the element that becomes electrically conductive when it is in a state of its being applied with a reverse bias voltage is a diode.

12. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to one of claims 8 to 10, wherein the element that becomes electrically conductive when it is in a state of its being applied with a reverse bias voltage is a diode.

13. The device for driving a luminescent display panel according to claim 1, wherein the luminescent element is constructed using an organic EL element the luminescent layer of that is made of an organic compound.